

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please replace claims 14, 15, 17, 37, 39, 40, 41 and 43 with the following rewritten claims:

14. [Amended] A purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein consisting of a contiguous amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

15. [Amended] A purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein consisting of a contiguous amino acid sequence extending from amino acid methionine at position 48 through amino acid cysteine at position 284 in SEQ ID NO: 2.

17. [Amended] A purified polypeptide consisting of a contiguous amino acid sequence in accordance with SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, or SEQ ID NO: 8.

37. [Amended] A purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein consisting of a contiguous amino acid sequence having a 70 to 99% identity to SEQ ID NO: 2.

39. [Amended] A purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein consisting of a contiguous amino acid sequence having a 70 to 99% identity to the amino acids as set forth from amino acid methionine at position 48 through amino acid cysteine at position 284 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

40. [Amended] A purified polypeptide consisting of a contiguous amino acid sequence having a 70 to 99% identity to one of the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7 and SEQ ID NO: 8.

41. [Amended] A purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein consisting of a contiguous amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 18.

43. [Amended] A purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein consisting of a contiguous amino acid sequence having a 70 to 99% identity to SEQ ID NO: 18.

Respectfully submitted,



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